

**Abstract**

A system and method facilitating a unified framework for accessing structured and unstructured data is provided. The invention includes a source document having data that is parsed into a data document component providing a hierarchical representation of data associated with the source document and a data set component providing a relational representation of at least a portion of the data associated with the source document. The invention further provides for a schema defining a structure of the relational representation to be associated with the source document and/or inferred by the data set component. Data stored in the data document component and the data set component are synchronized, thus a change made to data stored in the data set component is reflected in data stored in the data document component. Further, a change made to data stored in the data document component is reflected in data stored in the data set component if utilized according to the schema. The invention further provides for a service to access the hierarchical representation of data associated with the source document and/or a designer to access the relational representation of data associated with the source document.